## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

AGR-05 EB-07 /082 W

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R 081400Z MAR 76

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3869

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

COMIDEASTFOR

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI

CNO WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL ASMARA 0218

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT: REPORT OF SITUATION IN KEREN

- 1. ON FRIDAY, MARCH 5, REPS OF CRS IN ERITREA VISITED CONGEN TO UPDATE INFORMATION ON THEIR PRESCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMS IN ASMARA, AND THEIR PLANS TO OPEN OPERATIONS IN KEREN AND MASSAWA. MASSAWA PROGRAM WILL NOT BEGIN UNTIL NEW FOOD SUPPLIES ARRIVE END OF MARCH. KEREN PROGRAM, HOWEVER, HAS RECEIVED ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT OF EPMG AUTHORITIES AND WILL BEGIN AS SOON AS CRS FOOD CURRENTLY IN WAREHOUSE IN MASSAWA BROUGHT TO ASMARA AND THEN ON TO KEREN; THIS IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY LATTER PART OF MARCH.
- 2. AS PRELIMINARY TO BEGINNING PROGRAM IN KEREN, TWO ETHIOPIAN REPS OF CRS VISITED TOWN IN EARLY JANUARY. THEY REPORTED CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT SITUATION IN KEREN IS RELAXED AS COMPARED TO ASMARA.

SEVEN-THIRTY CURFEW IS NOT STRICTLY OBSERVED AND PEOPLE CAN BE SEEN ON STREETS AS LATE AS 8:30. FOOD SITUATION IS NOT GOOD, AS SUPPLIES ARE SPORADIC, BUT RESTAURANTS CONTINUE TO FUNCTION, AND GENERALLY ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF CEREALS, DAIRY PRODUCTS, MEAT, AND OILS EXIST. COFFEE, TEA, SUGAR, AND IMPORTED FOOD ITEMS ARE NOT AVAILABLE. SECURITY SITUATION IS NOT SEVERE AS THERE WAS NO FIRING DURING WEEK OF CRS REPS' VISIT. THERE ARE SEVERAL THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES DRIVEN INTO KEREN FROM SURROUNDING VILLAGES, THUS SWELLING THE RANKS OF POOR AND UNEMPLOYED.

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: FOOD ASSISTANCE, SCHOOLS, POLITICAL SITUATION

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

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Subject: REPORT OF SITUATION IN KEREN TAGS: PINS, ET, US
To: STATE ADDIS ABABA

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006